



## KAIMUKI NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 4

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813  
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD  
JUNE 21, 2006  
LILUOKALANI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Abe at 7:05 p.m. A quorum was not present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jim Cone, Mike Abe, Daniel Carvalho, Randolph Hack, Sharon Schneider.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Eduardo Hernandez, Daniel Nahoopii.

**GUESTS:** James Toyooka (DOE), Glenn Yamasaki, Lydia Chock (Leahi Hospital), Kapono Ryan (Chaminade University), Dr. Susan Jackson (Governor's Office), Shane Ambrose (ILWU), Eric La'a (Representative Scott Nishimoto's Office), Sgt. G. Maekawa, Lt. Ahlo, Officer C. Hytry (HPD-District 7, East Honolulu), Elwood Lum, John Kobayashi (Kaimuki Business and Professional Association [KBPA]), Capt. M. Tamanaha (HFD-Kaimuki Station), Representative Calvin Say, Senator Les Ihara, Eric Wong (KBPA), Matt Tuthill, Mel Kihara (Mel's Barber), Stan Fichtman (Councilmember Charles Djou's Office), Councilmember Charles Djou, Chester Lao (Board of Water Supply), Sumiko Obara (Representative Barbara Marumoto's Office), Representative Barbara Marumoto, Michele Acedo (A Taste of New York, Kahuna Dog), Gina Saldania, Councilmember Ann Kobayashi, Eric McCutcheon, Sam Suzuki, Julia Allen, S. Sonoda, Jay Ishibashi (Mayor's Office), Lori Yamada, Dean Chu (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** Deferred due to lack of a quorum.

**BOARD VACANCIES, FOUR SEATS I SUBDISTRICT 1** – Deferred due to lack of a quorum.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS:**

**HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT** – Lt. Ahlo stated a written report with statistics was distributed earlier for interested persons to review and highlighted/added the following:

1. The All Terrain Unit issued 9 citations for misdemeanors, made 31 warrant arrests, issued 40 liquor violations citations, 4 dog in the park citations, 1 citation for illegal camping, 195 moving violations citations, and 35 parking violations.
2. The written report includes informational material on the new pedestrian safety law relating to crosswalks.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

When negotiating a street with two-way traffic such as Koko Head Avenue, drivers should stop for pedestrians in, and be prepared to stop for pedestrians approaching the driver's side of the street. It was acknowledged people are still getting used to the new law and education about the law is an ongoing process.

Lt. Ahlo, Sgt. Maekawa, and Officer Hytry were thanked for attending the meeting.

Cone arrived during the above portion of the meeting.

**HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT** – Capt. Tamanaha, from the Kaimuki Station, reported the following:

1. last month the station responded to 5 structure, 1 auto and 1 rubbish fire; 4 search and rescue, 78 medical calls, 2 hazardous materials, and 22 miscellaneous calls.



2. Bush fire season is here, so remember to maintain a 30-foot wide clearing in between any structure and vegetation. Recent rains may have overgrown vegetation in some breaks.

With Independence Day around the corner, consider leaving the fireworks to the professionals and enjoy one of the many fireworks displays around town. If you use fireworks, follow all warnings and instructions. Young children should only use fireworks under the direct supervision of an adult. Have a happy and safe Independence Day.

There were no questions from the Board or guests. Capt. Tamanaha was thanked for attending the meeting.

Schneider arrived during the above portion of the meeting.

**BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY** – Chester Lao, from the Board of Water Supply, reported the following:

1. The water rates take effect October 1. The increase revenue is needed for such needs as replacing aging water lines. The rate change also reduces the amount of water used to reach the next rate block where the rate increases, so the more water you use, the higher rate you pay. Formerly, the more you used, the less you paid in the next rate block. The less water you use will also save you money on your sewer bill which is based on the amount of water you use.
2. Water main replacement projects in the area are ongoing.
3. In response to a previous month's question, high pressure water is used to clean off the street following completion of a project requiring excavation of the street. Normally this does not cause damage to the street. In the situation in question, the street was in poor condition and the high pressure water may have caused damage.
4. The weather this year is predicted to be wetter than normal.

There were no questions from the Board or guests. Lao was thanked for attending the meeting.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES:**

**GOVERNOR'S OFFICE** – Dr. Susan Jackson, representing the Governor's Office, distributed the weekly report and highlighted/added the following:

1. The Governor has until June 26 to notify the legislature of any bills to be vetoed, and until July 11 to sign bills into law. Five bills have been vetoed so far.
2. The Governor was in Washington D.C. for President Bush's signing of legislation to make the North West Hawaiian Islands a national monument, and in Groton, Connecticut to christen the nuclear submarine USS Hawaii.
3. The Governor will be attending a meeting on the Leeward side to discuss the homelessness problem on Leeward beaches.
4. Emergency response agency representatives will be attending meetings in Washington D.C. next week.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

No current statistics on the number of homeless persons on the Leeward side were available at this time, past estimates were about 4,000 persons.

Dr. Jackson was thanked for attending the meeting.

**SENATOR LES IHARA** – Senator Ihara reported the following:

1. The legislature is waiting to see what bills the Governor vetoes, then it will consider what it will do in response.
2. He is working on elder abuse matters.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

Discussion followed on proposals for changes to the State sunshine law to provide exceptions to provisions such as restrictions of members of deliberative groups such as Neighborhood Boards, from meeting in groups outside of legally noticed meetings as the law is restrictive for some groups; and accommodating new technology – such as email. Senator Ihara noted that a dialog project is being conducted by the University of Hawaii on possible exceptions from the law.

Senator Ihara was thanked for attending the meeting.

**REPRESENTATIVE CALVIN SAY** – Representative Say distributed his monthly report and highlighted/added that legislation of interest passed this session included addressing identity theft to protect victims by allowing them to place a security freeze on their credit reports, and making it a Class C felony to intentionally or knowingly possess confidential information of another person without authorization and adds identity theft as an enumerated offenses within the repeat offender statute.

There were no questions from the Board or guests. Representative Say was thanked for attending the meeting.

**REPRESENTATIVE BARBARA MARUMOTO** - Representative Marumoto distributed her monthly report and highlighted/added the following:

1. There will be five proposed constitutional amendments on the General Election ballot.
2. Local school principals were acknowledged for work to encourage students to read books, etc., including Liliuokalani principal James Toyooka, who was duct-taped to a cafeteria wall in celebration of students raising \$1000 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.
3. Kaimuki resident Helene Sokogawa was confirmed by the Senate to serve on the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education.
4. At the last Kaimuki Business and Professional Association meeting, there was support for the City's plan for converting the municipal parking lot to an attendant-controlled lot. It is believed that this change will discourage long-term parking by businesses' employees leaving fewer spaces for customers.

There were no questions from the Board or guests. Representative Marumoto was thanked for attending the meeting.

**COUNCILMEMBER ANN KOBAYASHI** - Councilmember Kobayashi distributed her monthly report and highlighted/added the following:

1. The Council passed the budget on June 7.
2. The Council also passed bills on property tax rate changes, and an increase in non-resident admission fees for the Honolulu Zoo. The property tax changes include reducing the homeowners' rate and increasing the commercial rate so businesses would pay a greater share of the taxes.
3. Property tax relief passed included Bill 81, for a \$200 home exemption to qualified homeowners. The first payment of property tax bills is due October 20. Providing more tax relief is desired, but revenue is needed to pay ongoing debt service.

A Real Property Tax informational workshop is scheduled for June 24, First Chinese Church of Christ, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Assistance will be available in applying for various exemptions. One new law enables households with an income below \$50,000 to either pay the full tax or four percent of the household income.

4. Councilmember Kobayashi was commended for the work on the budget.

**COUNCILMEMBER CHARLES DJOU** – Councilmember Djou reported the following:

1. The Council will be holding a Special Meeting tomorrow on a resolution expressing Council support to defray the administrative costs associated with the funding for mass transit systems.
2. He is working on a requirement for Emergency Medical Services personnel to be subject to random drug tests as are members of the police and fire departments.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

Members of the police and fire departments are subject to annual, random drug tests.

Councilmember Djou was thanked for attending the meeting.

**REPRESENTATIVE SCOT NISHIMOTO** – A written report was received and made available for interested persons to review.

**REPRESENTATIVE LYLA BERG** – A written report was received and made available for interested persons to review.

#### **PENDING BUSINESS:**

**KAIMUKI PARKING PROBLEM, REVIEW OF ACTION AND FUTURE COURSE OF ACTION** – Chair Abe provided a brief background on past actions addressing parking problems at the municipal parking lot, including reducing the maximum number of hours of parking allowed and increasing the rates; proposal to convert the metered parking to attendant-controlled, and construction of a parking structure. Additional comments followed on the last KBPA meeting where it was announced the City is proceeding with plans to convert the metered parking to attendant-controlled with plans to have it in place by December 4, but without repaving, remarking the parking stalls, and no improvements including Americans With Disability Act accessibility. Chair Abe also proposed the Board reconsider its vote supporting the conversion to attendant-controlled and proceed with development of a parking structure.

A lengthy discussion followed, with comments that included:

1. Pro and con on conversion to attendant-controlled.
2. Location of the parking structure in the 11th and Harding avenues corner of the lot instead of the central area near the Board of Realtors building.
3. Need for specifics on whether or not there will be a loss of parking spaces by conversion to attendant-controlled.
4. Traffic management of backups cause by queuing to enter the lot.
5. Use of off-site valet parking, that it is illegal to do on-site valet parking under the current law, and that there is lack of merchants' support for an off-site valet parking plan.
6. Need to do something, proceed with the conversion to attendant-controlled, see if it works, and have contract provisions to stop it if it does not work.

7. The Board should stand by its vote from last month's meeting and not change its vote which could delay this project further.
8. There is economic revitalization occurring, additional parking is needed.
9. Do not proceed with the attendant-controlled parking plan, rather use that funding to develop the parking structure.
10. There is only a parking problem during the lunch and dinner hours. Opposing a structure as it would remain empty the rest of the time.
11. Development of a parking structure will take years to fund and design, take much longer to build than believed, and will eliminate use of the parking lot during construction. Chair Abe noted being contacted by a company that would build an automated parking structure for free.
12. Parking at Liliuokalani Elementary School will be available during the Christmas season.
13. Attendant-controlled will change the character of the area, eliminating customers cruising the parking lot to check out where to go.
14. Work is being done to expedite the conversion to attendant-controlled.
15. When will ADA and other improvements be made?
16. Suggestion that the Board do another survey, and opposition as enough surveys have been done and no consensus has been reached.
17. Request for more details on the City's plans. Ishibashi will follow up.

As there was no quorum present, the Board was unable to take any action on this matter.

Carvalho left the meeting during the above portion of the meeting.

#### **PUBLIC INPUT AND CONCERNS:**

**CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY** – Kapono Ryan, Public Information Office, reported Chaminade University is marking its 50th anniversary and distributed copies of the quarterly report.

**UPDATE ON REAL PROPERTY TAX ISSUE** – Previously discussed during Councilmember Kobayashi's report.

#### **CHAIR'S REPORT, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES:**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 17, 2006 AND APRIL 19, 2006 REGULAR MEETINGS** – Deferred due to lack of a quorum.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Chair Abe reported for the month of May, the Operating Account balance was \$893.71, the Publicity Account balance was \$1371.00, and the Refreshment Account balance was \$120.00. It was noted the funds revert to the general fund at the end of the current fiscal year.

**NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:** Chair Abe noted a request by the Defend Oahu Coalition to make a presentation at the next meeting regarding sale of residential property, golf course, hospital, etc. property in Kahuku and development of luxury homes in Kahuku.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Submitted by,

Dean Chu  
Neighborhood Assistant